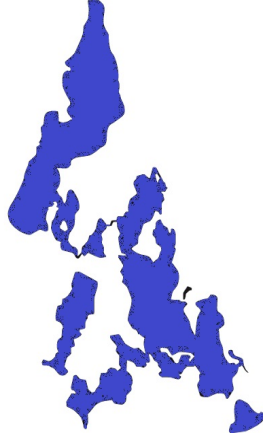


The Chain Letter

of the

**WABANA
CHAIN OF
LAKES
ASSOCIATION**



**Summer
2023**

Volume 26, Issue 2

Dedicated to the care and preservation of our lakes, for the enjoyment and safety of all.

WCOLA OFFICERS

President: Steven Melin

steven.melin@juno.com

(email only)

Vice President: Mark Conover

markellenconover@gmail.com

(email only)

Treasurer: Jean Koewler

326-4302

djkoewler@paulbunyan.net

Secretary: Chris Friedlieb

chrisfriedlieb@yahoo.com

(e-mail only)

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Tom Horton (Social)

Carl Nordgren (Government Liaison)

**Louis Gueltzow (Firewise and
Roadside Clean-up)**

Lori Moore (Communications)

Carol Speedling (Historical Committee)

Jack Hartung (Secchi Disk Coordinator)

Mark Conover (Environmental)

Susan Lick (Shoreland Advisor)

Follow us on the [Wabana Chain of Lakes Facebook](#) page

Visit our web site www.wcola.org.

Follow current weather on Wabana Lake wabanalake.org

President's Reveries For

Spring 2023

It is June and summer seems to have started right when the ice went out in early May. It was a long and snowy winter, but now we have the beginning of another summer season on this beautiful chain of lakes. Let us get out there and enjoy all this area has to offer, even if you must spray on a can of bug repellent.

Summer WCOLA activities have started up. The first of the annual road clean-ups has been completed already with the second scheduled for September 20. The kick-off social picnic was held June 17th and the wings that were served were great (Thank you, Tom) along with the food brought by others. Upcoming events include the July 4th Boat Parade on July 2nd, the annual WCOLA picnic (Aug. 5th with pork on the menu), and the WCOLA annual meeting on August 12th.

There is a lot going on regarding aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention. WCOLA and Wabana Township have again donated funds towards AIS inspections at the boat landings. Both landings are staffed during the peak days which are Friday through Monday. The WCOLA sponsored boat wash at Wabana Township Hall is open Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 9:00 am – 7:00 pm. If you are taking your boat anywhere, stop in a get a free boat wash on the weekends.

Speaking of the Annual Meeting, this is where the WCOLA President and Vice President positions will be presented. Mark Conover's and my terms are ending. We are looking for individuals wanting to apply for these positions. Being president of this organization has been an honor. There is a great group of board and committee members who dedicate their time to make WCOLA happen and it is a pleasure to work with them. Also, financially WCOLA is in a solid position. We budget for AIS inspections, picnics, newsletters, and other activities. We also have a good emergency fund savings account set aside if an aquatic invasive species event should occur. A lake association is the first line of defense for such an event. So please, consider volunteering for either of these positions. It will keep WCOLA a great association. Please contact any of the WCOLA Board members listed on the first page of this newsletter if you are interested. Ballots will be distributed in late July and the results presented at the annual meeting.

Have a great summer,

Steve

2023 Projected Calendar of Events

- July 2nd - 4th of July Boat Parade 1 pm
- July 8th- Pancake breakfast- free-will offering for the Wabana Rec projects- 9-11 a.m.
- July 10-13th- Firewise pickup
- July 22-23rd- Itasca Fight Blight dumpsters at the town hall- NO TIRES
- Aug. 5th - Annual WCOLA Picnic and Cornhole tournament 4 pm
- Aug. 12th - Annual WCOLA Meeting
- Sept. 20th- Roadside Fall Clean-up

Wabana Chain of Lakes Treasurer's Report May 31, 2023

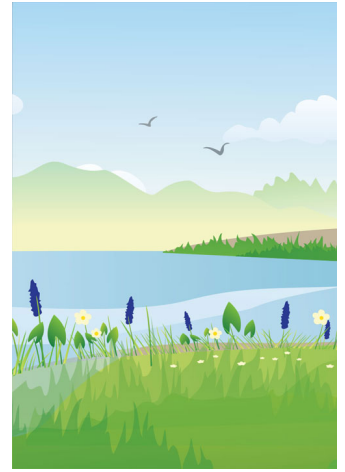
Balance – May 1, 2023	\$ 17,156.73
Receipts	
Dues	\$ 150.00
Contributions	\$ 5.00
Total Receipts	\$ 155.00
Disbursements:	
Total Expenses	\$ 0.00
Checkbook Balance – May 31, 2023	\$ 17,311.73
Savings Account – Water Testing – Balance	\$ 1,511.09
Savings Account – AIS Emergency Fund – Balance	\$ 12,592.07
Decontamination Unit Fundraiser – Total	\$ 8,574.04
Total included in Checkbook Balance	
AIS Inspectors Fundraiser – Total	\$ 1,094.89
Total included in Checkbook Balance	

Total Paid Households: 140

Shoreland Advisors

What is the shoreland advisors program?

Several years ago, Itasca County surveyed Itasca County lakeshore residents. From this survey we learned lakeshore owners wanted information about their property from ordinary citizens. As a result, Itasca Waters decided to pioneer and pilot a unique program: the Shoreland Advisors program. This three-year program focuses on restoring shoreland here in Itasca County by using helpful practices that can positively impact lake water quality.



With assistance from the University of Minnesota Extension, our advisors have completed an educational workshop and an onsite training session involving a series of local lakeshore properties in various states of quality. Advisors make personal onsite visits with lakeshore owners who want information about managing shoreland property in an ecologically friendly way that helps water quality.

Our hope is that the Shoreland Advisor's program will grow to become a model that can be used across the state. We have many friends and neighbors on the lake who are working with Itasca Waters to preserve shorelines. They are: Dr. Mark Conover, John Downing, Jim Gowling, Marcia Gowling, Dave Lick, Sue Lick, Peter Friedlieb, Chris Friedlieb and Jean Melin. Itasca Waters will work with you to schedule an advisor to come out and meet with you!

[Link to contact Shoreland Advisors](#)

[Lawns and Lakes: There is a connection](#) great video to watch about caring for your lawn by the lake.



Roadside clean-up

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Wabana Township Roadside clean-up on May 10th.

Louie and Janeen Gueltzow, Ken and Barb Zimmer, Denny and Jean Koewler, Gary and Kim Oja, Lori and Tom Moore, Steve Melin, Mark Conover, Pam Frieson, Bonnie Larson, Ellen Christmas, Sue Lick, Kirk Carlson.

We will be doing the Fall clean-up on September 20th. Mark your calendar. We would love to see new faces!

Bears to Bird Feeders Research Program

Wabana Chain of Lakes Association members,

I'm writing to you on behalf of the MN DNR Bear Research Project. We are conducting a research project that will help us understand bear damage to bird feeders. According to our records, you have filed a report of a bear visiting and possibly damaging your bird feeders in previous years.

We are writing to you to inquire about your interest in participating in our study. The study will compare bear damage to bird feeders that are protected by an energized fence to bird feeders that are not protected by an energized fence. After one month, the fenced and unfenced bird feeders will switch so that we can observe how long it takes for bears to discover an unprotected feeder.

If you have bird feeders that have experienced bear damage and you would like to help us continue this important bear damage research by allowing us to access your land to install bird feeders and an energized fence, please email (Hannah.Leeper@state.mn.us) or leave a text/voicemail (218-328-8874) with your name and contact information. I'll get into contact with you to discuss details, logistics, and what to expect. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Hannah Leeper

Wildlife Research Biologist

Minnesota DNR Bear Research Project



For specific details of your commitment you can access the following link or contact Hannah Leeper.

[Bears to Bird Feeders details](#)



Fall 2023 Newsletter – Editor's Request

We have had a great response the past couple years with all of the photos that we have received of your WCOLA seasons of fun. So again, for this Fall newsletter, we would like member inputs. Send your photos and stories about the fun activities you have done in, on, and around these beautiful lakes during any of the seasons.

Please send via email to lorigalles9861@gmail.com– Thank you

WCOLA Memberships

2023

FirstName	LastName	Lake	Membershi P
John and Karen	Lukens	Wabana	2029
John and Jenny	Aulick	Wabana	2023
Donna and David	Becchetti	Little Wabana	2023
Craig and Cindy	Bender	Hanson Lake	2023
Duane and Anne	Benson	Bluewater	2023
Jim and Sue	Bergan	Bluewater	2023
Elizabeth Bunge	Birch	Wabana	2023
Steven and Christine	Bjerke	Wabana	2023
Charlie and Leslie	Black	Wabana	2023
Douglas	Blackmore	Wabana	2023
Terry R. and Lynn M.	Boblit	Wabana	2023
Bill	Bottoms, Jr.	Bluewater	2023
Aaron and Kelly	Britton	Trout	2023
Chris and Nancy	Bunge	Wabana	2023
Dan and Jeanne	Burke	Wabana	2023
Gary and Carol	Burkholder	Wabana	2023
Hugh and Anjuli	Cameron	Bluewater	2023
	Camp Fire MN	Bluewater	2023
Kirk	Carlson	Wabana	2023
Raymond and Mary	Carlson	Little Wabana	2023
Robert D. and Susan Y.	Chalgren, Sr.	Trout	2023
Richard and Patricia	Chambers	Wabana	2023
John F. and Dennis	Chervinko	Trout	2023
Paul and Peggy	Christians	Wabana	2023
Ellen J.	Christmas	Wabana	2023
Daryl and Michelle	Clough	Wabana	2023
George and Libby	Colburn	Wabana	2023

FirstName	LastName	Lake	Membershi P
Mark and Ellen	Conover	Wabana	2023
Matt and Sarah	Copeland	Wabana	2023
Jim and Bobbi	Corrigan	Wabana	2023
Mark and Julie	Demos	Little Trout	2023
John and Marcia	Downing	Wabana	2023
Thomas and Carole Owen	Fagreluis	Wabana	2023
A. J.	Fleischhacker	Wabana	2023
Tannie Marsh and Steve	Fox	Wabana	2023
Eric and Jan	Fredbeck	Wabana	2023
Dr. Peter and Chris	Friedlieb	Wabana	2023
Mary and Bob	Gephart	Wabana	2023
John and Martha Ann	Gettinger	Wabana	2023
Rev. George & Lou Ellen	Gilbertson	Little Wabana	2023
Jim and Marcia	Gowling	Wabana	2023
Don and Michele	Greiner	Bluewater	2023
Doug and Kathy	Griffin	Wabana	2023
Louis and Janeen	Gueltzow	Wabana	2023
Jessica Sedivy and Jon	Gunderson	Wabana	2023
Rick and Betsy Fischer	Hadley	Trout	2023
Dan and Jean	Hagen	Wabana	2023
Vicky and Rick	Harding	Trout	2023
Cress and Susannah	Hart	Wabana	2023
Jack and Donna	Hartung	Wabana	2023
Susan	Hawkinson	Wabana	2023
Kyle, Kari, Brett	Hedlund	Wabana	2023
Myron and Joan	Henrickson	Wabana	2023
Richard and Rosalie	Hesse	Wabana	2023
Tom	Horton	Wabana	2023
Bruce and Jan	Hultgren	Wabana	2023
Scott and Mary	Hutter	Wabana	2023
Tim and Susan	Jarvis	Wabana	2023
Dave	Johnson	Wabana	2023
Mark and Anne	Johnson	Wabana	2023
Jeff and Linda	Jorgenson	Wabana	2023
Erik	Kaukis	Bluewater	2023
Al and Julie	Keller	Wabana	2023
Richard and Jeanne	Koeckeritz	Bluewater	2023
David and Stefanie	Koewler	Wabana	2023
Dennis and Jean	Koewler	Wabana	2023
John and Sheila	Koewler	Wabana	2023

FirstName	LastName	Lake	Membershi P	FirstName	LastName	Lake	Membershi P
Robert and Wendy	Koewler	Wabana	2023	Gary and Kim Marvin and Sandie	Oja Oman	Wabana	2023
Danielle	Larsen	Wabana	2023	Marvin and Mary	Ott		
Emma J.	Larson	Wabana	2023	Brian Peters and Sharon	Owen	Wabana	2023
				Tim and Jean	Panchyshyn	Wabana	2023
				Glenn & Elaine	Pearson	Wabana	2023
Juan and Christina	Lazo	Wabana	2023	Jason and Tanwi	Prigge	Wabana	2023
Dave and Sue	Lick	Wabana	2023	Ron and Anne	Radecki	Wabana	2023
Arnie and Julie	Linder	Wabana	2023	James and Susan	Ries	Bluewater	2023
Michael and Annette	Linder	Wabana	2023	JoEllyn Moore and Andrew	Roalstad	Wabana	2023
Roger and Nancy	Linder	Wabana	2023	Ron Bill	Roalstad Rutherford	Wabana Bluewater	2023
Patrick and Jackie	Loney	Wabana	2023				
Thompson, Linden, Odell, Graham and Jess	Loney Family Lukens	Wabana	2023	Diane	Rutherford	Bluewater	2023
Brian and Pamela	Lund	Wabana	2023	Stuart W. and Tanya	Sage	Bluewater	2023
Patricia and Joseph	Maijala	Bluewater	2023	William and Shirley	Sage	Bluewater	2023
James and Jane	McCullough	Wabana	2023	Richard Brasch and Carole	Schmidt	Wabana	2023
				Dara Wolf and Doug	Skelton	Trout	2023
Mark and Kathy	McCullough	Wabana	2023	Bruce and Diane	Smith	Bluewater	2023
Paul and Kristen	McCullough	Wabana	2023	Jim and Heather	Sodomka	Little Tr	2023
Tom and Debra	McCullough	Wabana	2023	John	Soll	Wabana	
Mary Ann	Mead	Little Trout	2023	Wayne and Carol	Speedling	Clearwater	2023
Steven and Pat	Mead	Little Trout	2023	Janis	Stein	Wabana	2023
Steve and Jean	Melin	Wabana	2023	Kim Wickland and Rob	Striegl	Wabana	2023
John and Carolyn	Merkel	Trout	2023	Kurt and Lavonne	Thompson	Bluewater	2023
Loree and Matthew	Miltich	Wabana Townshipp	2023	Matthew & Nicole Stecklein and Greg & Mary	Till	Wabana	2023
Mark	Miner	Wabana	2023	John and Mary	Uradnik	Wabana	2023
Keith and Jane	Moore	Wabana	2023	Betty and Gregg	Vandesteeg	Wabana	2023
Tom and Lori	Moore			Jack	Velzen	Wabana	2023
Lynn and Tim	Moratzka	Trout	2023	Swanny	Voneida	Bluewater	2023
Tom and Carol	Myrick		2023				
Dr. Richard and Kathleen	Nelson	Wabana	2023	Timothy and Margaret	Walker	Trout	2023
Sam and Sandra	Nelson	Little Wabana	2023	Kelley and Sally	Wheeler	Trout	2023
Lafe M.	Ness, Jr.	Wabana	2023	Mike Murphy and Ellen	Widmark	Wabana	2023
David and Carolyn	Nyren	Wabana	2023	Sally and George	Wilbur	Wabana	2023
Paul and Barb	Oberg	Wabana	2023	Michael and Barbara	Wilkus	Bluewater	2023
Tom and Christine	Oberg	Wabana	2023				

FirstName	LastName	Lake	Membershi
Marcia Anderson and Ross	Williams	Wabana	2023 ^P
Gib and Kathleen	Willson	Wabana	2023
Gig and Kristen	Willson	Wabana	2023
Al Schultz and Mary	Ziegler	Little Wabana	2023
Brian and Lauren	Zimmer	Wabana	2023
Mark and Lindsey	Zimmer	Wabana	2023
Ken and Barbara	Zimmer, Jr.	Wabana	2023
Mark W. and Alexandra	Zimmerman	Trout	2023
John and Alida	Zimmerman, Jr.	Trout	2023

Help Support AIS Inspectors at WCOLA

WCOLA Playing Cards are available for purchase. The deck of cards consist of 54 scenery photos that WCOLA members submitted. There is a different scene used on each card face and a map of the chain of lakes on the card back.

The playing cards are available for purchase for \$15 per deck with proceeds to fund AIS inspectors at the boat landings. The playing cards can be purchased immediately by picking them up from Jean Koewler or Steve Melin. Just send us an email (djkoewler@paulbunyan.net or steven.melin@juno.com) to set up a time to pick-up your purchase.



For payment, please make a check payable to WCOLA, or cash for each deck you want to purchase.

UPCOMING

4th of July Boat Parade

Decorate your boat, pontoon, canoe, kayak and join us in the 4th of July Boat parade! Meet in Wakeman Bay at 1 pm on Sunday, July 2nd.



JUMP ABOARD!!

We are in need of volunteers to take the President and Vice President positions of the WCOLA Board. If interested or wanting more info, please contact a board member listed on the front page.

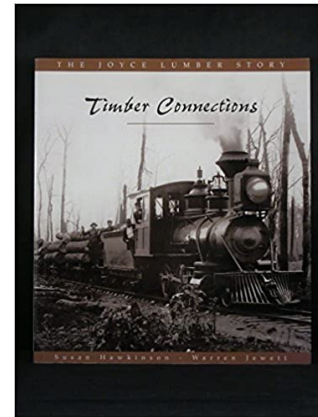
Help Support AIS Inspectors at WCOLA

Timber Connections traces the history of five generations of Joyces who collectively spent more than a century and a half building a lumber empire in North America. An ambitious John Joyce, son of a revolutionary war veteran, built a primitive sawmill in New England in the early 1800s. David Joyce, the family visionary, left the security of his father's business in 1860 to invest in land and a sawmill in Lyons, Iowa, a booming river town along the Mississippi. Joyce partnered with lumber giants like Frederick Weyerhaeuser in timber purchases, log driving, and sawmilling in Wisconsin and Minnesota. William Joyce shifted the family focus from lake states white pine to southern pine and cypress in East Texas and Louisiana. The last two generations sustained the family fortune by switching from the cut-and-get-out logging patterns of the past to selective cutting and reforestation.

Joyce lumbering in Itasca County, Minnesota -- particularly in the Bigfork Valley -- is the centerpiece of Timber Connections. This is the region where three generations of Joyces built and operated a mill and a railroad and afterward sold their cutover lands. The story of the Joyce family and their business enterprises is significantly intertwined with the early history of the county. Many small communities like Deer River, Marcell, Bigfork, Effie, and Wirt developed along the railroad tracks and adjacent to the mill in the late 1800s and early 1900s because Joyces operated four logging railroads in conjunction with their lumber businesses.

Authors Susan Hawkinson and Warren Jewett started their research in northern Minnesota with the Joyce-owned Itasca Lumber Company and Minneapolis and Rainy River logging railroad, affectionately known as the Gut and Liver line. Timber Connections is 335 pages with 90 pictures, graphics, and maps. The book is carefully documented with extensive endnotes and complete bibliography. It was a finalist for the Minnesota Book Award in 2004.

Timber Connections - Hard-cover addition \$45.00 with \$10 of proceeds to WCOLA for AIS funding.



Watch for a Winter on-line store offering WCOLA clothing and other misc items! Proceeds from the WCOLA store will be used to support our AIS initiative.

FIREWISE

I was just informed this morning that we are going to have a Firewise Brush Pile pickup for Wabana Township this summer.

Unfortunately we are scheduled for July 10-13th, which is not much time to prepare.

***See email from Jean Koewler for documents that need to be filled out by July 7th in order to participate in this program.**

1. Firewise Guideline Letter, which outlines what is allowable to be picked up.
2. Tracking Form, which you need to fill out and return to me, This is used by Firewise to determine future funding. Just give your best estimate of time spent this season by line to help protect your property from fire. This form needs to be returned to me by Friday noon July 7th, so you can be placed on the schedule.

Again sorry for the short notice. If you have any questions contact me.

Louie Gueltzow
Firewise Coordinator Wabana Township

lgueltzow@gmail.com
218-999-9217

**THE CHAIN LETTER OF THE
WABANA CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION**

Jean Koewler, Treasurer
32040 Wakeman Bay Trail
Grand Rapids, MN 55744